

HOUSE RESOLUTION 28  
By Bowers

A RESOLUTION to recognize and celebrate the 81<sup>st</sup> anniversary  
of the Middle Baptist Church.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that the members of this General Assembly should recognize those venerable religious institutions and their congregations who, through their unflagging capacity for love, dedication of spirit, and faith in God, strive to enrich the lives of people in their communities; and

WHEREAS, the Middle Baptist Church is one such estimable congregation and is celebrating its 81<sup>st</sup> anniversary this year; and

WHEREAS, Middle Baptist Church was organized by Reverend Jim Brown and originally had 35 members; and

WHEREAS, in 1924 the Middle Baptist Church was constructed under the leadership of Reverend W. H. Mosby; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Lester Basken became the pastor of Middle Baptist Church in 1971 and has tirelessly and faithfully served his congregation, the people of the community, and the Lord; and

WHEREAS, because of Rev. Lester Basken's great devotion and sensitivity, the Middle Baptist Church has grown while still maintaining its integrity; the congregation has retained its intimacy while swelling to over 2,500 members; under his capable leadership, Middle Baptist Church has built a new Sanctuary, Educational Facility, and Family Life Center; and

WHEREAS, his many professional accomplishments aside, Rev. Basken is thankful to share both love and companionship with his wife of 51 years, Irene Basken, and their three children, Sharon, Marilyn, and Chrislyn; and

WHEREAS, Middle Baptist Church has been blessed with such estimable and devout members as Mrs. Christine Mitchell who has been a member for 80 years; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should recognize those institutions that have significantly contributed to the social, cultural, religious, and economic vitality of their community and the State of Tennessee; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we honor the congregation of the Middle Baptist Church for their many years of humble Christian service to God, their community, and the State, and extend to them our best wishes for their future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.